



**ASSISTANT TAX SERVICE SPECIALIST  
EXAM CODE: 4EQ24**

Department(s):	Board of Equalization
Opening Date:	September 4, 2014
Final Filing Date:	September 18, 2014
Exam Type:	Departmental Promotional
Salary:	\$4711.00 to \$5900.00
Location(s):	SPOT Exam – Sacramento

## INTRODUCTION

***Your application will not be accepted for this promotional examination unless you are currently a Board of Equalization employee that meets the minimum qualifications or fall under SPB rule 234, 235, Government Code 18990, 18991, and 18992.***

**SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THE APPLICATION. As indicated under examination information, applications received without the Supplemental Items will be eliminated from the examination process.**

## EEO

An equal opportunity employer to all regardless of race, color, creed, national origin, ancestry, sex, marital status, disability, religious or political affiliation, age, or sexual orientation.

## DRUG FREE STATEMENT

It is an objective of the state of California to achieve a drug-free state work place. Any applicant for state employment will be expected to behave in accordance with this objective because the use of illegal drugs is inconsistent with the law of the state, the rules governing civil service and the special trust placed in public servants.

## REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMITTANCE TO THE EXAMINATION

All applicants must meet the education and/or experience requirements as stated in the Minimum Qualifications section of this examination announcement by **September 18, 2014** the written test date. All applications/resumes must include "to" and "from" dates (month/day/year), time base, and civil service class title (**not working title**). **Applications/resumes received without this information will be rejected.**

## WHO SHOULD APPLY

This is a departmental promotional examination for the Board of Equalization.

1. Applicants must have a permanent civil service appointment with the Board of Equalization or meet the provisions of the State Personnel Board Rules 234 or 235 by **September 18, 2014** the final filing date, in order to take this examination; or
2. Must be a current or former employee of the Legislature for two or more years as defined in Government Code 18990; or
3. Must be a current or former non-elected exempt employee of the Executive branch for two or more consecutive years as defined in Government Code 18992; or
4. Must be a person retired from the United States military, honorably discharged from active military duty with a service-connected disability, or honorably discharged from active duty as defined in Government Code 18991.

For applicants under Items 2, 3, or 4, if promotional examinations are given by more than one department for the same classification, the applicant must select one department in which to compete.

## FILING INSTRUCTIONS

Final Filing Date: **September 18, 2014**

State Applications (Form STD. 678) may be mailed to:

**EXAMINATION & RECRUITMENT SECTION  
BOARD OF EQUALIZATION  
450 N STREET, MIC: 17  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814**

**Do not submit applications to the State Personnel Board/ CalHR.**

Applications (Form STD. 678) submitted by mail must be **POSTMARKED** (e.g., United States Postal Service), or personally delivered no later than the final filing date. Applications are available at [jobs.ca.gov](http://jobs.ca.gov), State Personnel Board offices, local offices of the Employment Development Department and the testing department on this job bulletin.

### **Note:**

**Applications postmarked or personally delivered to the Human Resources Division, Room 317, 450 N Street, Sacramento, after the final filing date will not be accepted for any reason.**

**Do not send your application via interoffice or interagency mail. Applications received in this manner will not be accepted and cannot be returned pursuant to California Code of regulations 174.**

It is the personal responsibility of each examination candidate to submit an examination application within the timeframe and in the manner specified on this examination bulletin. Candidates are also responsible for obtaining proof of mailing or submission of their application to the Examination & Recruitment Section if necessary. Candidates are encouraged to contact the Examination & Recruitment Section (email: [boeexams@boe.ca.gov](mailto:boeexams@boe.ca.gov) or call: (916) 324-4807) to verify receipt of their application before the close-of-business on the final filing date.

## SPECIAL TESTING ARRANGEMENTS

If you are disabled and need special testing arrangements, mark the appropriate box in Part 2 of the "Application for Examination." You will be contacted to make specific arrangements.

## REQUIRED IDENTIFICATION

Accepted applicants are required to bring either a photo identification card or two forms of signed identification to the examination.

## MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

All applications must meet the following entrance requirements for this examination by **September 18, 2014** the final filing date.

**Experience:** Either

1. Two years of experience communicating financial information to the public. or
2. Four years of experience in writing, reporting or editing for a newspaper, news service, radio or television station or in a position having major duties in the area of public relations or public information and involving communicating to the public. This experience must have developed the ability to be responsible for the conduct of a comprehensive public information program for a State agency. Writing experience, while an integral part of the above requirements, will not be considered qualifying in itself. (Experience in the California state service applied toward this requirement must have included at least one year performing the duties of a class at a level of responsibility equivalent to that of Assistant Information Officer.)

### **AND**

**Education:** Equivalent to graduation from college. (Additional qualifying experience may be substituted for education on a year- for-year basis.)

**Applicants must show proof of a bachelor's degree and/or evidence of successful completion of the prescribed courses before being considered eligible for appointment. The requirement for "Equivalent to graduation from college" means at least a Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or a letter from the college or university stating the applicant has met all of the academic requirements for graduation.**

## EXAMINATION INFORMATION

**This examination will consist of a Supplemental Items evaluation weighted 100%.**

Each applicant for this examination must complete and submit his/her responses to the Supplemental Items according to the instructions shown below by **September 18, 2014**, the final filing date. Applications received **without** the Supplemental Items **will be eliminated from the examination process.**

### **GUIDELINES FOR RESPONDING TO THE SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS:**

When responding to the Supplemental Items, please follow the guidelines below:

- Your responses must be typewritten or generated by a computer on 8 1/2" x 11" paper.
- Your response for each item must **not** exceed 1 typed page (12-point font). Margins should be 1 inch all around.
- Put the **examination title** and **your name** at the top of each page.
- Make sure your responses are **complete, specific, clear,** and **concise**.
- Answer each item number separately and indicate the corresponding item number for each response.
- Each response will be independently evaluated; therefore, it is important that you provide a complete response to each item.

**NOTE:** Resumes, letters, and other materials WILL NOT be evaluated or considered as responses to the supplemental items. However, they will be used to determine eligibility for admittance to the exam.

### **SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS**

When responding to the following items, provide specific examples from your background giving details of your role, responsibilities and/or methods used. Omitted information cannot be considered or assumed.

#### **Item #1**

Please describe your experience and the methods you have used in writing, editing, and creating written materials

- a) a newspaper, magazine, or periodical
- b) in a position having major duties in the areas of public relations or public information involving communications to the public

#### **Item #2**

Please describe your experience researching, analyzing, and interpreting technical information like regulations and tax/fee laws to produce in plain language communication materials for:

- a) internal staff
- b) the public

#### **Item #3**

Please describe your experience organizing, designing, editing, proofreading, and producing technical web and printed materials.

#### **Item #4**

Please describe your experience creating and maintaining cooperative working relationships with:

- a) internal employees
- b) the public
- c) industry groups

#### **Item #5**

Please describe your experience in all aspects of event planning and project management.

#### **Item #6**

Please describe your experience planning and maintaining multiple projects to meet deadlines while responding quickly and effectively to unanticipated situations.

## ELIGIBLE LIST INFORMATION

A departmental promotional eligible list will be established for use by the Board of Equalization in **Sacramento only**. The list will be abolished 12 months after it is established unless the needs of the service and conditions of the list warrant a change in this period.

## POSITION DESCRIPTION

Under direction, to assist a Tax Service Specialist with a program of providing accurate and understandable information to the public concerning the tax laws, rules, and regulations administered by a tax agency; and to do other related work.

## KNOWLEDGE AND ABILITIES

**Knowledge of:** Process of translating complex tax laws, rules, and regulations into lay terms; methods used to determine public needs for facts and guidance; methods of editing publications and forms; communications channels, methods, and procedures; California state revenue and taxation programs.

**Ability to:** Encourage proper compliance with tax laws; anticipate industry-wide tax problems and stimulate the development of answers and their dissemination to the public; develop new and imaginative approaches in organizing and directing major segments of a statewide communications and education program; communicate effectively; establish and maintain cooperative relations with the press and tax practitioners; organize and lay out printed materials; analyze situations accurately and take effective action.

## DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS

Ability to represent taxpayer interest in a technically oriented organization; demonstrated capacity for assuming progressively greater responsibility; emotional stability under stress; recognition of the public's need for assistance in understanding complex taxation procedures, and to effectively present tax agency policies to the public; ability to gain the confidence and respect of those contacted in the work.

## VETERANS PREFERENCE

Veterans' Preference will not be granted in the examination as it does not meet the requirements to qualify for Veterans' Preference pursuant to Government Code Section 18973.1, effective January 1, 2014.

## CAREER CREDITS

Career Credits do not apply and will not be added to the final score of this examination.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have questions concerning this examination, please call the California State Board of Equalization, Examination and Recruitment Section at (916) 324-4807. You may also contact the California State Board of Equalization in writing at 450 N Street, MIC 17, Sacramento, CA 95814.

## DISCLAIMER

Please click on the link below to review the official California State Personnel Board class specification:

<http://jobs.spb.ca.gov/wvpos/jobspecs.cfm>

## GENERAL INFORMATION

**For an examination with a written feature**, it is the candidate's responsibility to contact the Board of Equalization three days prior to the written test date if he/she has not received his/her notice of appointment.

**For an examination without a written feature**, it is the candidate's responsibility to contact the Board of Equalization three weeks after the final filing date if he/she has not received his/her notice.

**If a candidate's notice** of oral interview or performance test fails to reach him/her 3 days prior to their scheduled appointment due to a verified postal error, he/she will be rescheduled upon written request.

**Examination Locations:** When a written test is part of the examination, it will be given in such places in California as the number of candidates and conditions warrant. However, locations of interviews or performance evaluations may be limited or extended as conditions warrant.

**Applications are available** at [jobs.ca.gov](http://jobs.ca.gov), State Personnel Board offices, local offices of the Employment Development Department and the testing department on this job bulletin.

**If you meet the requirements** stated on this bulletin, you may take this examination, which is competitive. Possession of the entrance requirement does not assure a place on the eligible list. Your performance in the examination will be compared with the performance of the others who take this test, and all candidates who pass will be ranked according to their scores.

**The testing department** reserves the right to revise the examination plan to better meet the needs of the service, if the circumstances under which this examination was planned change. Such revision will be in accordance with civil service laws and rules and all competitors will be notified.

**Candidates needing special testing arrangements** due to a disability must mark the appropriate box on the application and/or contact the testing department.

**General Qualifications:** Candidates must possess essential personal qualifications including integrity, initiative, dependability, good judgment, and ability to work cooperatively with others; and a state of health consistent with the ability to perform the assigned duties of the class. A medical examination may be required. In open examinations, investigation may be made of employment records and personal history and fingerprinting may be required.

**Eligible Lists:** Eligible lists established by competitive examination, regardless of date, must be used in the following order: 1) sub-divisional promotional, 2) departmental promotional, 3) multi-departmental promotional, 4) service-wide promotional, 5) departmental open, 6) open. When there are two lists of the same kind, the older must be used first. Eligible lists will expire in one to four years unless otherwise stated on the bulletin.

**If Promotional Examinations Only:** Competition is limited to employees who have a permanent civil service appointment and military veterans that meet all the minimum qualifications. Under certain circumstances, other employees may be allowed to compete under provisions of Rules 234, 235, and 235.2. State Personnel Board Rules 233, 234, 235, 235.2, and 237 contain provisions regarding civil service status and eligibility for promotional examinations. These rules may be reviewed at departmental personnel offices, at the State Personnel Board office or [jobs.ca.gov](http://jobs.ca.gov).

**If High School Equivalence is Required:** Equivalence to completion of the 12th grade may be demonstrated in any one of the following ways: 1) passing the General Educational Development (GED) Test; 2) completion of 12 semester units of college work; 3) certification from the State Department of Education, a local school board, or high school authorities that the candidate is considered to have education equivalent to graduation from high school; 4) for clerical and accounting classes, substitution of business college work in place of high school on a year-for-year basis.

**College Education:** The qualifications meeting the requirement "Equivalent to graduation from college" means satisfaction of the requirements for the bachelor's degree from an accredited, recognized institution of higher education. This means the applicant must show receipt of a bachelor's degree. Acceptable college course work must be from an accredited, recognized institution approved by the California Superintendent of Public Instruction under the provisions of California Education Code Section 94712.

**Veterans' Preference Points:** The California Department of Human Resources (CalHR) has information on how to apply for Veterans' Preference on their website at [jobs.ca.gov](http://jobs.ca.gov) and on the Application for Veterans' Preference form (CalHR 1093). Additional information is also available at the Department of Veterans Affairs website at <https://www.calvet.ca.gov/>. **TTY** is Telecommunications Device for the Deaf and is reachable only from phones equipped with a TTY Device. Calls may be placed using the following relay system. California Relay Telephone Service for the Deaf or Hearing Impaired: From TDD phones 1-800-735-2929 or from voice phones 1-800-735-2022

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